

Georgia Blue Crab

Date of Declaration/Determination: May 8, 2003

Location: Georgia

Cause: Due to, most likely, natural (otherwise undetermined) causes, possibly including an increase in the parasitic dinoflagellate, *Hematodinium perez*, diminished freshwater inflow displacing crabs, and recruitment failure caused by higher salinity.

Authority: Sec 312(a) of MSA

Appropriation: None to date (Although FY 03 appropriations made funding available for blue crab under "Disaster Assistance", it did not cover Georgia, but instead directed funds to other states and was not tied to MSA 312(a))

Assistance Provided: None to date